

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 FEA-01

ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 /086 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4489

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 8288

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EAID, CG

SUBJECT: POL PROBLEM

REF: KINSHASA 8217, 7887, 8067. A-167 OF SEPT 12;
LUBUMBASHI A-59 AND A-60

1. REFTELS AND AIRGRAMS HAVE DESCRIBED FUEL SHORTAGE DUE TO FOREIGN EXCHANGE SHORTAGE AND, IN SHABA AREA, TO TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES CAUSED BY CAUSED BY CLOSURE OF BENGUELA RAILROAD AND BOTTLENECK TO THE SOUTH. AS TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES TO SHABA CAN BE OVERCOME BY USE OF MORE COSTLY ALTERNATIVE ROUTES (SEE KINSHASA A-167), SHORTAGES ARE ESSENTIALLY DUE TO FOREIGN EXCHANGE SHORTAGE.

2. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY LOCAL SOURCES THAT GOZ HAS USED \$6 MILLION OF THIRD TRANCHE ABU DHABI LOAN TO PAY ALGERIA PORTION OF AMOUNT OWNED THAT COUNTRY. OBVIOUSLY THIS WAS DONE IN HOPE THAT PARTIAL PAYMENT WOULD INDUCE ALGERIA TO RESUME SUPPLIES. WE HAVE SINCE BEEN TOLD THAT ALGERIA ACCEPTED \$6 MILLION PAYMENT BUT HAD GIVEN NO INDICATION OF WILLINGNESS TO RESUME POL SUPPLIES.

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CONSEQUENTLY, AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN MOBIL AND GOZ APPEARS

TO BE ONLY FEASIBLE POSSIBILITY OF SECURING ADEQUATE
PETROLEUM SUPPLIES.

3. AS REPORTED KINSHASA REFTELS MOBIL IS PREPARED TO
RESUME SUPPLIES ONCE GOZ FUNISHES ACCEPTABLE BANK GUARANTEE.

4. WITH EXCEPTION OF INFO CONCERNING PAYMENT TO ALGERIA
ALL ABOVE INFO HAS BEEN DESCRIBED IN REFTELS AND AIR-
GRAMS BUT WE GIVE THIS BRIEF SUMMARY TO EMPHASIZE
THAT AGREEMENT WITH MOBIL APPEARS TO BE ABSOLUTELY
ESSENTIAL TO PREVENT DISRUPTION OF POL SUPPLY WITH
DISASTROUS EFFECTS UPON INDUSTRIAL AND MINERAL
PRODUCTION. WILLIAMS OF MOBIL NEW YORK IS IN MARBELLA AND
READY TO COME TO KINSHASA ON SHORT NOTICE. THE LOCA
MOBIL REP TELLS US THAT THE GOZ HAS INDICATED THAT THEY
ARE READY TO MAKE A COMPENSATION OFFER IN ANTICIPATION
THAT MOBIL WILL SUPPLY POL PRODUCTS. THE ONLY
ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT LACKING IS A BANK GUARANTEE FOR
MOBIL. GOZ HAS INDICATED TO MOBIL REPS THAT THEY
WILL BE AGREEABLE TO ANY DEMANDS CONCERNING BANK
GUARANTEES THAT MOBIL AND FNCB MIGHT REQUEST. SPINK,
LOCAL FNCB REP HAS RECOMMENDED THAT FNCB APPROVE BANK
GUARANTEE. THE HOLDUP IS WITH FNCB NEW YORK. WE
RECOMMEND ONCE AGAIN THAT SOMEONE APPROACH FNCB NY AND
ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE THEM TO IMPLEMENT GUARANTEE FOR
MOBIL.

5. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS GIVING LATEST POL STOCKS IN COUNTRY.
WALKER

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